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Aug 30th 2018

Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am writing to ask that you please continue to allow independent carriers to serve customers on copper lines, and to use fiber to connect their networks around the state. [ie, I am asking that you do not approve the petition by ATT and other big carriers that would end this possibility.]

I used ATT for years, and had terrible customer service from them. In addition, I was appalled by the tactics they employed to try to crowd out their competition. When I switched to Sonic a few years ago, it was such a wonderful change in service! When I called, I got to talk to real people who were responsive to my concerns. A year ago, I moved to an area that Sonic is not able to serve, so I joined LMI.net and have had good experiences with them as well.

Frankly, I wish there was MORE competition in internet and phone services, not less [as this petition would lead to.]

I need broadband service to stay in touch with my friends as well as run my tiny side business. The idea of having to go back to using ATT is so awful. Please, please, please, don't approve the petition that would effectively eliminate their competition and make them my only option!

Thank you,

Miriam Senturia